

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND the claims and ADD new claims as indicated below:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A socket for an electrical part ~~parts-part~~ having a plurality of solder ball terminals projected from an under surface of a body of the electrical part, the socket comprising;
  - a base member;
  - an elastic member disposed on the base member; and
  - a base plate, in the form of deformable sheet, disposed on the elastic member, and provided with a plurality of contact points to which ~~a plurality of the solder ball terminals of an~~ the electrical part is ~~are~~ to be contacted, the contact points being ~~disposed on the~~ an upper surface of the base plate in a predetermined distance to each other;
  - a pressing mechanism mounted on the base plate, comprising
    - a body having an opening portion at a central portion of the body through which the electrical part is inserted, and
    - a cover member rotatably attached to the body, the cover member pressing the electrical part to establish electrical contact between the contact points and the solder ball terminals when the cover member is rotated toward the body; and
    - an electrically insulating sheet stopper mounted on the base plate, the stopper having a predetermined thickness smaller than the height of the solder ball terminals and having a plurality of openings into which the solder ball terminals are inserted, wherein
      - the stopper limits deformation of the solder ball terminals by making an upper surface of the stopper abut on the under surface of the body of the electrical part and a lower surface of the stopper abut on the upper surface of the base plate when the pressing mechanism presses the electrical part, and
  - when a ~~position~~ portions of the elastic member ~~corresponding to each~~ the contact points ~~point of the elastic member is~~ are compressed by the pressing force from the ~~terminal~~ solder ball terminals of the electrical part, ~~an escaping space is~~ spaces at positions in between the solder ball terminals provide ~~provided for elastic deformation of the portion~~ portions ~~pushed away by the compression and is disposed at a position corresponding in between each terminal.~~

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The socket for an electrical part ~~parts-part~~ according to claim 1, ~~where in~~ wherein the elastic member is formed with ~~a protrusion~~ protrusions projecting

toward the base plate at ~~a position~~positions corresponding to ~~each the contact point~~points, and ~~in between such protrusion~~, the escaping ~~space is~~spaces being formed between the protrusions.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The socket for ~~an electrical parts-part~~ according to claim 1, ~~where in~~wherein the elastic member is formed with ~~a protrusion~~protrusions projecting toward the base member at ~~a position~~positions corresponding to ~~each the contact point~~points, and ~~in between such protrusion~~, the escaping ~~space is~~spaces being formed between the protrusions.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The socket for ~~an electrical parts-part~~ according to claim 1, ~~where in~~wherein the base member is formed with ~~a protrusion~~protrusions projecting toward the elastic member at ~~a position~~positions corresponding to ~~each the contact point~~points, and ~~in between such protrusion~~, the escaping ~~space is~~spaces being formed between the protrusions.

5. (NEW) A socket for an electrical part having a plurality of solder ball terminals projected from an under surface of a body of the electrical part, the socket comprising:

an elastic member; and

a base plate in the form of deformable sheet and provided with contact points to which the solder ball terminals of the electrical part are to be contacted, the contact points being disposed on an upper surface of the base plate in a predetermined distance to each other;

a pressing mechanism comprising

a body having an opening portion at a central portion of the body through which the electrical part is inserted, and

a cover member rotatably attached to the body, the cover member pressing the electrical part to establish electrical contact between the contact points and the solder ball terminals when the cover member is rotated toward the body; and

an electrically insulating sheet stopper having a predetermined thickness smaller than the height of the solder ball terminals and having openings into which the solder ball terminals are inserted, wherein

the stopper limits deformation of the solder ball terminals by making an upper surface of the stopper abut on the under surface of the body of the electrical part and a lower surface of the stopper abut on the upper surface of the base plate when the

pressing mechanism presses the electrical part, and

when portions of the elastic member corresponding to the contact points are compressed by a pressing force from the solder ball terminals due to the pressing by the pressing mechanism, escaping spaces at positions in between the solder ball terminals provide for elastic deformation of said portions of the elastic member.

6. (NEW) The socket for an electrical part according to claim 5, wherein the elastic member is formed with protrusions projecting toward the base plate at positions corresponding to the contact points, the escaping spaces being formed between the protrusions, and said portions of the elastic member being part of the protrusions.

7. (NEW) A socket for an electrical part having a plurality of solder ball terminals projected from an under surface of a body of the electrical part, the socket comprising:

an elastic member;

an electrically insulating sheet stopper having a thickness smaller than the height of the solder ball terminals and having openings into which the solder ball terminals are inserted,

a base plate between the elastic member and the stopper, the base plate being a deformable sheet and provided with contact points to which the solder ball terminals of the electrical part are to be contacted, the contact points being disposed on an upper surface of the base plate, the elastic member having portions corresponding to the contact points,

wherein, when the electrical part is pressed to establish electrical contact between the contact points and the solder ball terminals,

the stopper limits deformation of the solder ball terminals by making an upper surface of the stopper abut on the under surface of the body of the electrical part and a lower surface of the stopper abut on the upper surface of the base plate, and

when the portions of the elastic member corresponding to the contact points are compressed by a pressing force from the solder ball terminals, escaping spaces at positions in between the solder ball terminals provide for elastic deformation of said portions of the elastic member, to thereby prevent damage to the solder ball terminals caused by the pressing force.

8. (NEW) The socket for an electrical part according to claim 7, wherein the elastic member is formed with protrusions projecting toward the base plate at positions corresponding to the contact points, the escaping spaces being formed between the protrusions, and said

portions of the elastic member being part of the protrusions.

9. (NEW) A socket for an electrical part having solder ball terminals, the socket comprising:

an elastic member;

a stopper having a thickness smaller than the height of the solder ball terminals;

a base between the elastic member and the stopper and provided with contact points to which the solder ball terminals of the electrical part are to be contacted, the elastic member having portions corresponding to the contact points,

wherein the elastic member, the stopper and the base are positioned with respect to each other so that, when the electrical part is pressed to establish electrical contact between the contact points and the solder ball terminals,

the stopper limits deformation of the solder ball terminals due to the pressing of the electrical part by abutting an upper surface of the stopper on a surface of the electrical part and abutting a lower surface of the stopper on a surface of the base, and

when the portions of the elastic member corresponding to the contact points are compressed by a pressing force from the solder ball terminals due to the pressing of the electrical part, escaping spaces between the solder ball terminals provide for elastic deformation of said portions of the elastic member, to thereby prevent damage to the solder ball terminals caused by the pressing force.